

# ORWIGSBURG HAPPENINGS

*From Where It All Began*

*... Is Happening Again*

No. 116 – Issued Quarterly

BOROUGH OF ORWIGSBURG, PA

AUGUST 2023

## *End-of-Summer and Fall Activities Abound in Our Community*

## **Block Party, Heritage Day, Halloween and Much More!**

The greater Orwigsburg community is blessed to have so many businesses, organizations, groups of individuals, and unflinching support from the Borough ... all enthusiastically working for the betterment of and enjoyment for residents and visitors.

It's been an active spring and summer with the Square Time "Farm-to-Square" having just concluded, Memorial Day parade and service, June Jamboree, youth baseball and softball, swimming at the BMMS pool, playground instruction at Albright's Woods, and so much more.

But wait, we're just getting revved up. The momentum keeps building now through the end of the year.

### ***End-of-Summer Block Party***

All are invited and it's all FREE! Free food and drink, entertainment, fun and games are yours at the annual Community Block Party hosted by Salem Church. Fundraising throughout the year provides this gift to all who want to attend.

This is a "block" party in the truest sense as the one-block area of West Independence St. between S.



Warren and S. Liberty streets, adjacent to the church, will be closed to vehicular traffic on Sunday, Aug. 27 from 3 to 7 p.m.

### ***Make history on September 9***

The 31st annual Orwigsburg Heritage Day celebration will be held on Saturday, Sept. 9. The event welcomes visitors and invites residents to reflect on our

*- Continued on page 2*

## **COMING EVENTS**

**SUNDAY, AUG. 27 – Free Block Party** hosted by Salem United Methodist Church. West Independence St., between South Warren and South Liberty streets, will be blocked off from 3 to 7 p.m. Free entertainment, food and activities. All are invited!

**SATURDAY, SEPT. 9 – Orwigsburg Heritage Day**  
10 a.m. to 3 p.m. – "On the Square" and adjacent side streets. Live entertainment, street performers, bounce house, food and beverages. Displays and presentation at the Orwigsburg Historical Society.

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 25 – Halloween Parade,**  
coordinated by the Orwigsburg Lions Club and Orwigsburg Borough, steps off at 7 p.m. Rain date is Thursday, Oct. 26 at the same time.

**TUESDAY, OCT. 31 – Halloween Trick or Treat,** 6 to 8 p.m.; Turn your porch light on to indicate youngsters, 12 years and younger, are welcome to get a treat. (Raindate is Wednesday, Nov. 1; 6 to 8 p.m.)

## **RECYCLING INSERT -INSIDE!**

Orwigsburg Borough and its refuse/recycling collector – Anthracite Waste Services, Inc. – has updated its "best practices" Recycling Information for your use. Find this handy pick-and-save insert inside this issue.

## **On the inside . . .**

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OABPA Activities Abound! .....Pg. 12  
Free Library Offers So Much .....Pg. 14

## 2023 BOROUGH OFFICIALS

133 S. Liberty Street  
Orwigsburg, PA 17961 • Ph: 570-366-3103  
Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
[www.Orwigsburg.gov](http://www.Orwigsburg.gov)

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Council Vice President..... Brock Stein  
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### BOROUGH OFFICE

Sherry Edwards • Kathi Mengle

Orwigsburg Borough Council meets the First and Second Wednesday of each month beginning at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers, second floor of the Orwigsburg Police Station Building, 209 North Warren Street.

Currently there are no unique COVID-19 precautions in place for public attendance at either of these meetings. The public is urged to exercise masking and social distancing as one's personal needs dictate.

### OFFICIAL BOROUGH HOLIDAYS

Orwigsburg Borough offices and services will be closed in observance of the stated holidays in 2023 - Presidents Day, Feb. 20; Good Friday, April 7; Memorial Day, May 29; Independence Day, July 4; Labor Day, Sept. 4; Veterans' Day, Nov. 10 (observed); Thanksgiving, Nov. 23 and 24; Christmas Eve and Day, Dec. 22 (observed) and 25; New Year's Eve and Day, Dec. 29 (observed) and Jan. 1, 2024.

## Summer / Fall Events



- Continued from Page 1

historic past, enjoy the present, and look toward the future of Orwigsburg.

All attention focuses on Centre Square with spill-over to adjacent streets where a wide variety of vendors and crafts, games and live music, street performers and displays of all kinds will delight from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Planned and coordinated by the Orwigsburg Area Business and Professional Association (OABPA), the town's Heritage Day celebration brings together Borough support services; church, social, and service organizations; historical reenactors, and the various resources of the Orwigsburg Historical Society to mark a truly "historical" event enjoyed by thousands each year.

There will be fun for all ages, including a bounce house, horse-drawn carriage rides, and facepainting. The streets will be lined with vendors including food trucks, wineries, distilleries, crafters, local organizations and churches.

It being Heritage Day, be sure to visit the Orwigsburg Historical Society (OHS) & Museum just one block north of Centre Square at 109 E. Mifflin St. The headquarters will be open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

### Halloween shrieks and scares

Halloween is a special time in Orwigsburg.

This year's ghoulish parade, coordinated by the Lions Club and the Borough, will be featured Wednesday, Oct. 25.

- Continued on page 4

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### **SHENANDOAH**

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Shenandoah, PA 17976**

### **RAVINE**

**Route 125  
Ravine, PA 17966**

### **HEGINS**

**905 E Main & Park Lane  
Hegins, PA 17938**

# Fall Activities Abound in Our Community

- Continued from Page 2

The parade route will again be designed to improve participant safety and allow vehicle traffic to skirt the parade, but still move through the Borough. As in the past, the parade will form on Margaret Avenue, beginning at 6 p.m. Marchers, floats, and service vehicles will begin the parade, stepping off at 7 p.m.

To register your group for the parade or to obtain more information, contact Mike Swenson at 570-617-6050 or [mike1swenson@gmail.com](mailto:mike1swenson@gmail.com).

**Trick-or-Treat** - Youngsters dressed as princesses, super heroes, movie characters, ghosts and goblins are invited to go door-to-door during Orwigsburg's designated Trick-or-Treat on Halloween night - Tuesday, Oct. 31 - between the hours of 6 and 8 p.m.

In the event of inclement weather, Trick-or-Treat could be postponed to Wednesday, Nov. 1.

## Labor Day & Veterans Day

The national holiday to honor workers - Labor Day - will be celebrated on Monday, Sept. 4. All Borough offices will be closed in observance of the holiday. Refuse collection will be delayed one day to Wednesday, Sept. 6 and Saturday, Sept. 9.

Veterans Day services "on the square" at Bicentennial Park in Orwigsburg are always marked on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month - Saturday, Nov. 11 this year. Please plan to be a part of this solemn event. Being an official holiday for

workers, all Orwigsburg Borough operations will be closed on Veterans Day. Refuse collection will not be affected by the holiday.

## State Sen. David Argall

### Support for Alzheimer's

Too many of our families have suffered through the pain of watching a loved one stricken by Alzheimer's disease or dementia.



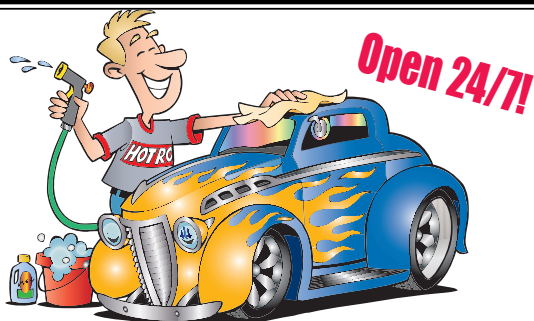
Senator  
David Argall

I am reminded of a meeting in my Mahanoy City office with a man who is now caring for his wife. There are an estimated 404,000 Pennsylvanians who sacrifice every day caring for friends and family with Alzheimer's or dementia. These numbers are expected to increase significantly in the coming years.

Despite the massive toll this disease takes on our families, Pennsylvania does not currently have a centralized department to provide support and care for Alzheimer's patients and their caregivers. I have cosponsored Senate Bill 840 to create the Alzheimer Disease and Related Disorders Division within the Department of Health.

I will always have happy memories of my mom, who suffered from this terrible disease during the last four years of her life.

To provide more smiles, and less tragedy, we need to pass this bill and support additional resources for those living with Alzheimer's and their caregivers.



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## SPREAD THE WORD

Interested in submitting an article for next quarter's issue of **Orwigsburg Happenings**? We welcome community service and non-profit organization information. Please contact Kathi Mengle at 570-366-3103 or [kmengel@orwigsburg.gov](mailto:kmengel@orwigsburg.gov).

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# Orwigsburg Police Department

## A Knox Box Can Help First Responders and Save A Life

Did you know the Orwigsburg Police and Fire Departments have a master key to every single structure in the Borough? It's true! We're able to easily access any structure in the event of an emergency.

Our "master keys" are batons, battering rams and, in some cases, our feet. The Fire Department utilizes halligans, axes, and sledgehammers. Not only do these entry methods cause untold damage, they take an unknown amount of time when an emergency exists.

Precious seconds count. There is, however, a solution - a Knox Box! A Knox Box is a small safe that holds the key to your door and is mounted on the outside of the building near the entrance. Police, fire and EMS have a master key for all Knox Boxes - whether a commercial, residential, or industrial property - enabling them to access the structure without doing damage.

### *Emergency outcomes can go either way*

Let's paint a picture! Don't get alarmed, but let's say that you call 9-1-1 in the middle of the night because you're experiencing chest pains. But, you lose consciousness while speaking with the dispatcher. An Orwigsburg police officer is first to arrive on scene and goes around the house looking for a way in that doesn't require breaking anything. He can't find an

open window or door and runs to his patrol car to grab a battering ram to force the front door open.

As this is happening, the Fire Department arrives and begins searching for a way inside. They use an axe and halligan to force open the back door.

The officer blows open the front door after several swings. Moments later, firemen are able to gain access through the back door. In both cases, the door jamb, lock, and door itself are destroyed. Lifesaving efforts begin, but because first responders were delayed in getting inside, they are unsuccessful in resuscitation.

How about another picture? Just like the scenario above ... you call 9-1-1 with chest pains and lose consciousness. A police officer is first to arrive, finds the front door locked; but, he obtains the house key from the Knox Box opening the front door without delay. He starts lifesaving efforts until the Fire Department and EMS arrive. Since access inside was achieved easily, no time was wasted allowing for successful resuscitation.

Knox Boxes are available and recommended for both residential and commercial buildings. There are several located on buildings throughout town.

If you would like to learn more about a Knox Box or how to purchase one, please contact Officer Brandon Bayer at 570-366-3101 ext 211.





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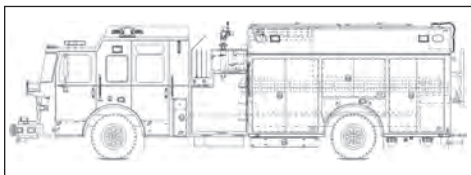


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# From the Desk of the Fire Chief . . . Scott Rarick

## Suppression/Rescue Truck on Order; Expected 2027

This is now the fifth article I have crafted. Again, as I put "pen to paper," I'm excited to announce Orwigsburg's Friendship Hose Company No. 1 has selected Pierce Manufacturing Inc. of Appleton, Wisconsin to build our next piece of fire apparatus.



It has been a long journey to get to this point and a bit exhausting, too. During that time, there have

been countless hours ... visiting other fire stations to see this type of vehicle, many committee meetings to develop and review specifications, and multiple meetings with many manufacturers all along the way.

Our new piece of equipment will have a dual function and purpose. With the rising costs of firefighting equipment - specifically apparatus - we consolidated resources by combining services of suppression and rescue into one stand-alone unit. The expected delivery date will be early 2027.

### *Features built into the new truck*

Key features to fill our needs that have been built into the specifications include: seating for eight members, enforced chassis and rescue body, 510 HP Pac-

car MX13 motor, 2000 gallon per minute pump, 770 gallon tank (750 gallons of water and 20 gallons of foam), TAK 4 suspension, Wilburt Nightscan light tower, winch and receiver on all four sides, 28 foot extension ladder and 16 foot roof ladder, ability to bring water into the pump from four sides, eight attack lines, over 1300 feet of supply hose, full height/full depth street level compartments, five overhead hatch compartments, electronic stability control, and side roll and front impact protection.

Once completed, it will carry an array of equipment from hoses, hooks, saws, breathing apparatus, foam, water, ladders, fans to hydraulic rescue tools, struts, cribbing, medical equipment, rope rescue equipment, confined space rescue equipment, atmospheric monitoring, and spill control materials.

The members of Friendship Hose Company No. 1 would like to extend a sincere note of thanks to the residents of Orwigsburg and surrounding communities, our members of local government, the PA Fire Company and Emergency Service Grant Program, and to the many fundraising supporters. Through these collective efforts, it makes this outcome possible.



**Scott Rarick**

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# Veterans Community Memorial Hall

## \$750K Grant Allows for Upfitting Facility Rooms/Services

The Orwigsburg Veterans Memorial Development Taskforce, working with Orwigsburg Borough since 2005 to renovate the Orwigsburg Veterans Community Memorial Hall, was grateful and excited to receive a \$750,000 USDA - Rural Development grant shepherded by U.S. Congressman Dan Meuser earlier this year.

The renovation of the Memorial Hall is a perfect example of a public-private partnership in action. The Meuser USDA grant will take the total project renovation across the \$3 million threshold and will ensure completion through the many stages over the last 17 years.

Amenities include a Veterans Foyer of Honor, Veterans Services Office, full-court gymnasium, retractable bleachers, two public conference room areas, public restrooms, complete catering kitchen, an outdoor full size basketball court, audiovisual amenities and high definition televisions in all areas, a military tank monument directly across Grove Street, paved parking with full lighting, and a digital events billboard on the corner of Washington and Grove Streets.

Meetings with the Orwigsburg veterans leadership, including VFW and American Legion, have finalized elements defining the scope of the \$750,000 USDA grant.

Though the final elements are still to be submitted for reimbursement, the Borough made a commitment to equip the building for current planned events - veteran recognition dinners, community fundraising, dances, dinners, weddings, etc.



This upfitting will furnish the Veterans Office (work table, office chairs, storage cabinets, and office computer), Veterans Foyer of Honor (conference table, chairs, museum-style benches, shadowbox display cases for war memorabilia, and additional donor grant display boards), Conference Room amenities (worktop case-work, computer stations, chairs, and storage closet), Kitchen (ice machine), gymnasium (basketball hoop, backboard upgrades, and blinds for windows), veterans tank area (pavers, flag poles for military branch flags, and benches, donated veterans eagle stand, display mounting, and landscaping), Memorial exterior (benches, sidewalk extension and handrails, steel roll-up storage door, stormwater detention and drainage enhancements), and a building security and fire detection/alert system.

Finally, the original Schuylkill County Court House clock, one-time housed in the chimney of the Veterans Memorial, restoration continues. The Veterans Foyer of Honor has the clock mounting supports installed to house the clock. Ebinger Iron Works in Schuylkill Haven has created, installed and graciously donated an attractive railing to protect the clock. The clock mechanism and replica clock face will be installed as an important project of the Schuylkill Masonic Lodge #138. The original clock face will be installed on the wall above the entry door as a display.

### Upcoming Memorial events

Important upcoming community events will feature a Schuylkill Chamber of Commerce luncheon hosting U.S. Senator Bob Casey, Jr. - date yet to be set, but likely in September. And, the Schuylkill Chamber of Commerce annual Veterans Breakfast on Friday, Nov. 10 will invite all Schuylkill County veterans, honoring them for their service to our country.

## Child's play... or is it?

Did you know that when children play with building blocks, especially with other children, they learn to:

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# Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

## Lions Club H.E.L.P.

Are you or a loved one in need of any of these items to aid in recovery from illness or surgery?

- Wheelchair
- Walker – stationary & folding
- Hospital bed – manual & electric
- Cane – single and multi-legged
- Crutches
- Shower seat
- Bedside commode/bedpan
- Over-toilet seat with handrails
- Temporary tub hand rail
- Recliner chair with auto-lift seat



The Orwigsburg Lions' "Health Equipment Loan Program" (HELP) provides these items to local residents at no charge as a community service. To arrange a loan, call Larry Dagna at 570-617-6149.

Do you have one or more of these health aids in your home or garage you no longer need? Consider donating any of these items to the Lions Club H.E.L.P. program. Call Larry to make arrangements.

## Orwigsburg Area Food Pantry

Distribution of food for the needy from the Orwigsburg Area Food Pantry, operating from St. John's UCC, 232 East Market St., will continue for the foreseeable future as a drive-thru on the third

Saturday of each month. Cars are to line up on Market St to Sherman St. between the hours of 9 and 11 a.m., weather permitting. All cancellations will be announced on our Facebook page, T-102 radio station, or on the St John's UCC sign across from the church entrance. Pet food and children's books will be available as long as the supply lasts.

Non-perishables or monetary donations are always needed. Call the Pantry at 570-366-2255 for more information, need, or to help in any way.



## Borough holiday schedule

Orwigsburg Borough offices/operations will be closed on the upcoming holidays: Monday, Sept. 4 (Labor Day) and Friday, Nov. 10 (Veterans Day, observed).

## Take care of your property

Property owners must keep premises and exterior property free from weeds or plant growth in excess of 6 inches. All noxious weeds are prohibited.

Weeds are defined as grasses, annual plants and vegetation, other than trees or shrubs. This regulation does not include cultivated flowers and gardens.

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# Orwigsburg Area Business & Professional Assoc.

The Orwigsburg Area Business & Professional Association has brought many spring and summer events to the community this year ... and a number of exciting late summer and fall events are yet to come.

Blessed with good weather, enthusiastic member participation, and strong community support, June Jamboree kicked off the summer on June 8 with a "spirited" celebration by local wineries, entertainment, food trucks, ice cream, and local crafts and art suppliers.

## Community Farmers Market is a hit!

OABPA member Kris Sadler, owner of Market Street



Coffee House, successfully initiated the Orwigsburg **Community Farmers Market** scheduled on the last Thursday of each month - May through September from 4 to 8 p.m. The next two Farmers Markets will be

on August 31 and September 28. Producers of farm-related products have been invited, free of charge, to bring their baked goods and fresh produce to the M&T/Community Parking Lot on Centre Square directly to the good people of the Orwigsburg area. The response from residents has been exceptional.

The year's final Farmers Market has been scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 12, featuring late-season produce, apples and apple cider, fall pumpkins, mums, gourds, hay bales, and corn stalks.

## Farm-to-Square event well attended

The summer's second "Square Time" event was **Farm-to-Square** on Thursday, Aug. 10, featuring fresh farm produce and farm-related products. Fortunately, rain skirted Orwigsburg, leaving the event drawing a large crowd of buyers, a huge number of vendors, plus live entertainment.



## Events keep coming!

**Heritage Day** - Always held on the Saturday after Labor Day, Orwigsburg will once again celebrate its past, showcase its present, and revel in its future promise with the 31st Orwigsburg Heritage Celebration on Saturday, Sept. 9 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Enjoy everything Orwigsburg - history, local artisans, family-friendly activities, food and fun! Non-stop live entertainment will feature multiple bands, intimate presentations by historic reenactors, and a variety of street performers throughout the day.

**Night of Chili and Chills** - A "spirited" celebration of the Halloween season returns, featuring a Chili Cookoff, silent auction, costume contests, a legendary "Casket of Cheer" and basket raffle, family-friendly activities and live music by Adrenalyn.

Tickets will be sold in advance. This event will be held at the Veterans Community Memorial Hall Saturday evening, Oct. 14

**Small Business Week** - Our community-wide "shop locally" promotion will be promoted Nov. 25 thru Dec. 2.

**Festival of Lights** - We don't want to rush the season, but you need to mark your calendar for this one - the always-enjoyed Festival of Lights. This year it will be held on Saturday, Dec. 2 beginning at 4:30 on the always beautifully-lit Centre Square.

## R&J TOURS - 2023

### DAY TOURS

Sept. 6 - Chalk Talk and Tea @ Mt. Hope Estates .....	\$91
Sept. 7 - Tribute to Celine Dion @ Wind Creek; <b>\$30 FSP</b> ..	\$81
Sept. 8 - Longwood Gardens Illuminated Fountains ...	**\$61
Sept. 16 - Guys and Dolls @ DADT.....	**\$99
Sept. 19 - John Denver Tribute @ Penns Peak .....	\$88
Sept. 28 - The Spinners @ Tropicana; <b>\$25 FSP</b> .....	\$101
Sept. 30 - Eastern State Penitentiary & Ghost Walk.....	**\$69
Oct. 3 - Tribute to Rod Stewart @ Penns Peak .....	\$88
Oct. 4 - Moses @ S & S w/ Bird In Hand lunch.....	**129
Oct. 18 - Jukebox Jive @ Magic and Wonder.....	**99

### OVERNIGHT TRIPS (Per Person Based on Double Occupancy)

Oct. 3-6 - Rockin' the Boardwalk, Virginia Beach .....	\$974
Oct. 6-12 - Coastal Trains of New England.....	\$2,025
Oct. 14-15 - Fall Foliage - PA Grand Canyon.....	\$384
Oct. 22-24 - Tropicana Hotel & Casino.....	\$245
Oct. 23-27 - Smoky Mountain Harvest.....	\$1,377
Nov. 9-12 - Veteran Tour of Honor, Washington DC.....	\$988
Nov. 12-14 - Resorts Casino.....	\$241
Dec. 6-8 - A Capitol Christmas, Washington DC.....	\$925

\*\* - Child Price Available

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# Orwigsburg Area Business & Professional Assoc.

## Member Recognition Award

Kris Sadler, owner of Market Square Coffee House, has been presented the OABPA Member Recognition Award for the second quarter of 2023. Nominated by Kay Jones (St. John's UCC) and Ben Forbes (Williamson, Friedberg & Jones), Kris received the award at the June Jamboree celebration.

The nomination noted, "Kris's extraordinary efforts to expand OABPA's events and promote the Orwigsburg Area community by personally contacting more than 100 vendors for this year's events."

"Kris has asked the hard questions with regard to how the events must change to broaden their appeal and keep Orwigsburg at the top of the public's mind. Her work has already produced measurable results in that she has brought new vendors with new products to OABPA events in 2023."

"Most importantly, Kris's attitude, sets a stellar example for other members of the business community and OABPA. Kris has a laser-like focus to increase



the appeal of OABPA events to the community and its members, and attacks the issues with expanding that appeal with a "can-do attitude."

## New membership year began July 1

Businesses thrive when joining together to create energy in their community, promoting each other, and bolstering the economic vitality, variety, and attractiveness of our retail, service, and professional business environment.

Join us! We welcome new members - businesses, non-profit organizations, and individuals - who want to improve our community.

Email us at [orwigsburgbusinesspa@gmail.com](mailto:orwigsburgbusinesspa@gmail.com). Also, follow OABPA member activities and promotions on our Facebook page.

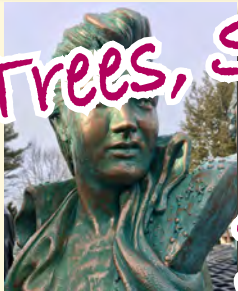
## Please Conserve Water

It's been a long, hot ... and dry ... summer! Orwigsburg Borough is requesting residents to voluntarily conserve water. Several easy ways include: turning off the spigot while brushing your teeth; reduce watering of yards and gardens; wash your car at car washes instead of at home; do full loads of laundry and full loads in your dishwasher.

Penn State Extension provides additional ways you can conserve water at <https://extension.psu.edu/household-water-conservation>.



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Sat. - 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sun. - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**- PLEASE COME IN TO BROWSE ANYTIME -**

# Orwigsburg Area Free Public Library

## Offering So Much to the Community; Come! Explore!

What is a "Public Library?" It's often referred to as the heart of the community, offering educational and recreational materials without bias. A "Free" public library is just that – our resources and programs are at



216 W. INDEPENDENCE ST.

no cost to our patrons, thanks to contributions during our annual Fund Drive, a whole host of fundraising events, endowments, and support from state, federal, and local sources. Your Orwigsburg Area Free Public Library is so much more than books; read on ... and then plan a visit to see for yourself!

### *Weekly children's programs*

We offer programs especially to engage youngsters from birth and beyond! Our Children's Programs continue to expand. **Storytime** will, once again, start up on Sept. 19 and continue on Tuesdays each week at 10:30 a.m. Special guest, Margie Peterson, will be at the Library on Tuesday, Sept. 26 to share her book, "The Boy Who Never Threw Anything Away" with the group. Join us for stories, songs, movement and crafts.

**Lapsit** (birth to age two) gathers on Thursday mornings at 10:30 a.m. for stories, songs and the love of reading. **Play K** (ages three to five) learn kindergarten behaviors with Circle Time and activities, returning on Friday, Sept 22 and each Friday thereafter at 11 a.m.

### *Monthly children's programs*

New participants are always welcome. Our **Lego Club** meets on the first Saturday of each month at 11 a.m. The Library shares its Legos – come build! Home-schooled children gather to share "**Homeschool Happenings**" on the third Wednesday each month at 11 a.m.

### *Adult weekly and monthly programs*

Your Library provides the gathering place to satisfy the needs and interests for all ages. For the adults,

## Newsletter Particulars

"Orwigsburg Happenings" is a quarterly newsletter of the Borough of Orwigsburg distributed to 2,000 households within the borough.

The newsletter is designed and printed by South Schuylkill Printing & Publishing  
960 E. Main St. • Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972

Ph: 570-385-3120 • Fax: 570-385-0725

E-mail: [printing@southschuylkill.net](mailto:printing@southschuylkill.net)

[www.SouthSchuylkillPrinting.com](http://www.SouthSchuylkillPrinting.com)

Publication dates for the next three issues are November 16, 2023; February 29 and May 23, 2024

### *News Submittals*

Nonprofit and community organizations within the Borough are invited to submit news items for consideration. Written submittals must be received by Kathi Mengle in the borough offices, [kmengle@orwigsburg.gov](mailto:kmengle@orwigsburg.gov) or call 570-366-3103 for info, three weeks prior to the publication date.

### *Advertising*

Businesses wishing to reach every household in the Borough of Orwigsburg are invited to advertise in future issues. Contact South Schuylkill Printing & Publishing for more information. Call Barb @ 570-385-3120. All advertisements must be received at least three weeks prior to the publication dates. Ad content is subject to approval and acceptance by the Borough of Orwigsburg.

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# Orwigsburg Area Free Public Library

we have groups meeting weekly to enjoy and share their love as **Knitters** every Monday at 1:30 p.m. All levels of expertise are welcome to come and learn.

Many older patrons have found their Library valuable when needing **Adult Technology Help**. Get one-on-one support, by prior appointment, on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 2 to 6 p.m. Contact the Library to sign up.

**Mahjongg** - a tile-based game developed in 18th century China - today has a strong fan-base around the globe. Want to learn how to play or better your skill? All levels are welcome. Meet on Fridays at 1p.m.



Mahjongg players also meet monthly on the first, third, and fifth Wednesdays at 6 p.m.

Other monthly adult groups include **Book Club** (the Library supplies the selected book) that meets on the last Monday at 6 p.m. **Doctor Chat** features a different topic on the third Monday at 6 p.m. Those interested in crafting can sign up to participate in **Adult Crafting** on the third Saturday each month at 1 p.m.

## Monthly trivia for the whole family

**Trivia Night** at the Orwigsburg Area Free Public Library has become a fun monthly event for individuals and whole families, involving all ages. Plan to join the fun on the fourth Wednesday beginning at 5:30 p.m.

Themed trivia dates through the end of the year are Sept. 27 - "I Love the 80s;" Oct. 25 - "Wednesday on Wednesday" (based on the Wednesday Addams Netflix show); Nov. 22 (5 p.m. start) - "Coal Country Boilo" presentation followed by "Boilo Trivia;" and Dec. 27 - "A Christmas Story Trivia" celebrating the 40th anniversary of the movie.

Want even more trivia? Create your own theme and become a Trivia host in 2024. Sign-up at the Library.

## Your Library offers so much more

**Basket Raffle** - It's going on now! Support the Library in conjunction with Ace Dougherty's graduation project "Arts in Orwigsburg." The main art event and Silent Bid Auction will take place at the Library on Heritage Day - Saturday, Sept. 9 from noon to 2 p.m.

**5K Run for the Books** - Whether you are an avid runner or a walker, come out and support the Library on Saturday, Sept. 16. There will be a Kids Fun Run, too! Registration is available online at Pretzel City, or visit the Library website. And as always, stop in at the Library for more info.



Upcoming in October will be a program on bats and Halloween craft events. Check the Library website often for dates, times, and additional info.

The Book Club will welcome author Robin Luftig at a meet-and-greet on Monday, Oct. 23 beginning at 6 p.m. to discuss the book "Ladies of the Fire."

Mark your calendar for the Library's biggest day of the year - Ye Olde Holly Trail will be celebrated on Saturday, Dec. 2.

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# Orwigsburg Historical Society

## Tired Truck Museum Tour on Sept. 16 ... A One-Time Event

Would you believe that more than 40 companies built trucks right here in Pennsylvania? Over the years, truck historian and collector, Keith Ernst, has been collecting as many of those "still-surviving" early trucks that he could find.

He is opening all three of his vintage truck museum locations for a tour on Saturday, Sept. 16, benefiting the Orwigsburg Historical Society. Transportation and a catered luncheon will be provided on the tour, departing at 11 a.m. from the M&T Bank Community Parking Lot, Centre Square, and lasting until 5 p.m. Get your tickets now because seat reservations are very limited.

Many people are familiar with the Hahn trucks, built in Hamburg, and Mack Trucks, built in Allentown; but, what about the many others - Clinton (Reading), Maccar (Scranton), Rowe (Lancaster), Bethlehem (Allentown), Vim (Philadelphia), Atlas (York), Autocar (Ardmore), Seldon (Allentown), Bessemer (Grove City), Kearns (Beavertown), and even Ford trucks, built in Chester.

Then there were also many companies that made the bodies for truck chassis, such as Martin-Parry (York) and York Hoover (York).

If there are any International Harvester fans out there, Keith has an assortment of those, also. Everything from a 10-20 McCormick Deering road roller to a chain-drive Model 54C dump truck that was used

on the Boulder Dam Project. Even International's very first pickup truck - a 1933 Model D-1 - will be included on this tour.

Note: Not all trucks in the three museum collections are completely restored. Many are still in their "work clothes." So, if you're into old iron, or just want to see what our forefathers used to build America, make your reservation by August 30th through the Orwigsburg Historical Society.

Send a check in the amount of \$40 (\$35.00 for current Society members) to OHS, 109 East Mifflin Street, Orwigsburg, PA 17961. Include your phone number. The admission fee includes bus transportation to all museums and a catered lunch. Call 570-366-8769 or 570-617-7809 for additional information.

### Schuylkill County's Buried Past

The society is pleased to offer a reprint of the very popular book, Schuylkill County's Buried Past by Francis J. Burke, Schuylkill County archaeologist and historian.

The book, available in very limited quantities, can be purchased at the Orwigsburg Historical Society & Museum for \$30. Books can also be ordered and mailed. To order your copy, send a check to the OHS, 109 East Mifflin Street, Orwigsburg, PA (include an additional \$6 for mailing) or stop at the society, open every Thursday from noon to 4 p.m.

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# A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

## Faith Church

It is with great excitement that Faith Church approaches this fall season. Once again, we will enjoy a church-wide program, "Created to Dream" – a campaign during which our entire church body focuses on the same program, weekly message, and study plan together. Greetings, I'm Pastor Doug Cresswell. Welcome to Faith Church!

Doing this for decades in the fall of the year, it's a great season to unite our church in prayer, study and worship for six weeks. If you were ever thinking of visiting Faith, this would be the time. You will enjoy the study, music and messages that work in tandem.

Exciting also is the launch of our new Mental Wellness program, bringing together county and state-wide efforts to help individuals/families get help and assistance. When a crisis approaches, it is often over-whelming to know what to do, who to call, and where to go for help. Our program will assist those individuals and families as they navigate these difficult waters. Our team will offer direction, guide and support, throughout and after the crisis.

Life has its great times, but also brings tragedy and disappointments. Faith has built numerous ministry plans to meet the ever changing and growing needs within our community and works to equip our church family to help in those areas.

We need your help. We believe everyone has skills and abilities that can be used to help others. We

would love to have you join us as we endeavor to Love God, Love People and Serve Our Community.

## St. Paul's Lutheran Church

The members and friends of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, located at 215 North Warren Street, welcome everyone to join us in praising God, serving our neighbors, and sharing the love of Christ as part of a growing community of faith. We are a Lutheran congregation with a rich tradition, but we are not old-fashioned. While we treasure our past, we are working together towards a brighter future.

All students, school personnel, parents, grandparents, and guardians are invited to join us for our "Blessing of the Backpack" service – 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, August 27. Refreshments and good fellowship will be shared following this service.

During the summer months, our worship services are held on Saturday evenings at 5:30 p.m. and on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. However, beginning on Sunday, Sept. 10, we will return to our regular worship schedule – Saturday evenings at 5:30 p.m. and two Sunday morning services at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion will be shared on the first Saturday of each month and at every Sunday service.

Also beginning on Sunday, Sept. 10, Sunday School for children returns monthly on the second Sunday during the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Children, one year of age to 10 years, are invited to join us for Bible

- Continued on page 18

## St. Paul's Lutheran Church

215 North Warren Street • Orwigsburg

Office: 570-366-2316

[www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org](http://www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org)

### Church Office Hours

Mon. to Thurs. – 9 a.m. to noon

### Summer Worship Times

Sat. – 5:30 p.m.; Sun. – 9:30 a.m.

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*Holy Communion shared the first Saturday and every Sunday.*

### Regular Worship Times Return Sept. 10

Saturdays – 5:30 p.m.; Sundays – 8 and 10:30 a.m.

### UPCOMING SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

**BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS** – Sun., Aug. 27; 9:30 a.m.

**ANNUAL CHURCH PICNIC** – Sun., Sept. 24; 11:30 a.m.

**BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS** – Sun., Oct. 1; 4 p.m.

**ANNUAL FALL BAZAAR** – Sat., Oct. 7; 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**CHILI & SOUP SALE** – Sat., Nov. 4 "on the square;" 8:30 a.m.

Check out our Facebook page and website;

Join our worship service on YouTube;

Call our Church Office for more info!

Reverend Michael T. Petresky, Pastor



179 Pine Creek Drive • Orwigsburg, PA

## Join Us!

### ReDiscover Jesus

Sunday, 10 am Worship Service  
In-person and live streamed on FB

### Adult Bible Study

Wednesdays, 6:30 pm  
In-Person & Virtual Classes Beginning 9/13

### Women's Bible Study

Thursdays, 6:30 pm  
In-Person & Virtual Classes Beginning 9/14

### Heritage Day Celebration

September 9 - 10 am to 3 pm  
Be sure to stop by our booth - and enjoy our bounce house!

For additional details visit [kimmelschurch.org](http://kimmelschurch.org)



# A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

- Continued from Page 17

stories, crafts, a snack, fun, and fellowship. The St. Paul's Orwigsburg Facebook page will have the up-to-date information and activities.

On Sunday, Sept. 24, following the 10:30 a.m. service at the church, we will hold our annual Church Picnic at the Albright's Woods pavilion. Beverages and hot dogs will be provided. Covered-dish items to share are appreciated, but not required. We invite members, friends, and neighbors to join us for good food, fellowship, and fun. Please call our church office, so we have an idea how many people we can expect.

In connection with the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, our annual "Blessing of the Animals" service at Albright's Woods pavilion will be held Sunday, Oct. 1 at 4 p.m. All friendly leashed (or housed) animals that slither, crawl, hop, walk, swim, or fly are welcome to participate in this lively outdoor event.

St. Paul's annual Service Ministry Bazaar will take place Saturday, Oct. 7 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in our church's Reidler Hall. The bazaar features lots of food, a large Chinese auction of gift baskets, many local vendors and craft dealers showing and selling their wares, a variety of homemade candies and pies for purchase, and an opportunity to visit with your friends and neighbors. Proceeds from this event are used to benefit those in need in our community.

The Men of St. Paul's will host a Chili & Soup Sale on Saturday, Nov. 4, beginning at 8:30 a.m. "on the

square." Come early for great chili, delicious homemade soups, and tasty breads and baked goods.

Church office hours are Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon. Call the Rev. Michael T. Petresky or our church staff at 570-366-2316. Leave a message if our office is not open when you call.

We encourage everyone to support our Community Food Pantry housed at St. John's UCC. Let us help feed our hungry neighbors! Also, join us in praying for the people of Ukraine and Sudan and for peace throughout the world.

Visit our Facebook page, website, or YouTube to watch our online videos or for more information about upcoming events or activities. Come and see. Share our work and our worship. Join us, as together we follow Christ!

## New Awakening Church

As the seasons change and the fall winds blow, we're reminded of the Holy Spirit. He is like a fresh wind, bringing good change and new things. Do you need some goodness and newness in your life? Are you in need of prayer? Come find us in our prayer tent at Orwigsburg Heritage Day on Saturday, Sept. 9. We'll have fun and free gifts for you, too!

Remember too, you're always welcome to join us for worship! We meet for service on Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. at the Schuylkill Racquet Club, 25 S Greenview Rd. just off Rt. 61, west of Orwigsburg. The service begins with contemporary-style music and prayer. The children then make their way to their own exciting church service. Kids' church and nursery services are provided. The service concludes with a practical and relatable message. Then it's time for coffee ... and cookies and cakes and just about everything else!

Or join us online at [Facebook.com/newawakeningchurch](https://www.facebook.com/newawakeningchurch) or on YouTube, Instagram, and Twitter. Our website, [www.newawakeningchurch.com](http://www.newawakeningchurch.com), has more information about us.

Connect and meet new faces during one of our mid-week group gatherings. In addition to a Prayer Night and Bible Study, we have a Men's Fellowship, Women's Fellowship, youth group, and even a fellowship for moms and school-aged children complete with a gym class! This fall enjoy fellowship as we venture out for hayrides, corn mazes, and zip lines - there's something for everybody!

New Awakening began with a vision to create a space where you could encounter God's love, realize His purpose for your life, and delight in who you were created to be. In short, it would be a place of love, truth, and new beginnings. We're not perfect people, but we really want you to know that you matter and that you're valued by God.

## St. John's UCC

St. John's United Church of Christ, 232 E. Market St., Orwigsburg sends greetings to everyone and thoughts ahead for a beautiful fall season. We hope all students, teachers and staff at local schools and college campuses return safely, after a refreshing



## St. John's United Church of Christ

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**Albright's Woods – 10 a.m.**

**Sunday School Begins Sept. 10**

**Ages – Kindergarten thru 6th Grade**

**Engineering Club**

**Every Sat. – 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Grades 7 thru 12**

**Online Worship Services at**

**[StJohnOrwigsburg.org](http://StJohnOrwigsburg.org)**

**Check our Facebook page, website, or church sign for information.**

# A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

summer, and that parents will welcome the season with eager anticipation of new opportunities for their children and grandchildren.

We welcome new faces to join us in worship any Sunday at 10 a.m. and to celebrate Holy Communion the first Sunday of each month. If you cannot attend in person, our service can be viewed on Facebook and the church website at [stjohnorwigsburg.org](http://stjohnorwigsburg.org).

Pastor Jeff Johnson provides a Facebook devotional every Tuesday afternoon and a Facebook "thought for the day" Thursday mornings. Pastor Jeff also leads a Bible study in the church office each Wednesday from 2 to 3 p.m. or can be joined via Zoom. All are always welcome!

Sunday school classes (children of kindergarten age through 6th grade) will begin again as of September 10. Class begins following the children's sermon at the beginning of each Sunday's worship service.

Outside worship and a church picnic will be held at Albright's Woods on Sunday, Sept. 17 at 10 a.m.

St. John's houses the Orwigsburg Area Food Pantry, supported by eight area churches and organizations – scout troops, Orwigsburg Lions Club, Women Who Care, schools – private donors, and many civic organizations. Food distribution is "drive-through" only, every third Saturday of the month from 9 to 11 a.m. Volunteers are always needed ... phone 570-366-3867 and leave a message to offer help or if you need help.

St. John's sponsors many Diakon programs for Healthy Living, Cub Scouts, a senior exercise program, an Engineering Club and a Lego Club. Phone the church office at 570-366-2255 with any questions. Postings can also be found on Facebook and the church website.

## Amazing Grace Baptist Church

This summer at Amazing Grace Baptist Church has been a busy time filled with all kinds of joy in serving Jesus. Between the various evangelistic outreaches, Singspirations, church fellowships, baptismal services, and the young singles ministry, we have needed all hands on deck.

Our church body plus numerous visitors were greatly blessed through the singing and testimonies at our Singspirations. It was exciting to see our young

singles having the courage to invite others in the community to participate with us.

If you are a young person looking to grow in the Lord with others your own age, we invite you to join our singles ministry. The group gathers once a month for an activity and Bible study. The best part of the singles ministry is seeing young people make godly decisions because they know it is the right thing to do. Call us or check out our Facebook page for more details.

In our 11 a.m. Sunday service, Pastor Adam Shedal is preaching through Romans 3 as we study Paul's doctrine of salvation and sanctification. Pastor Adam is also planning to begin a Biblical financial series during the 6 p.m. evening services. Come join us to learn about God's solutions to these important issues.

A Word of Encouragement – John 3:16 is probably the best known and well liked verse in the Bible. It reads, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Most Bible readers know this verse by heart; however, those numbers are getting fewer by the year.

More and more people have either never memorized, never heard of, or never understood John 3:16. What a shame! Please be encouraged to memorize this amazing verse, teach it to your children and grandchildren, and understand its meaning so that you too may be saved.

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**Heritage Day**  
**Sat., Sept. 9**  
**Halloween Parade**  
**Wed., Oct. 25**

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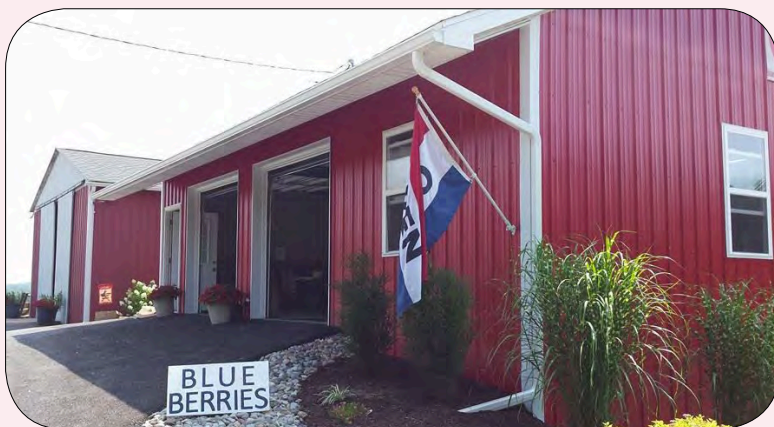
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